GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4141
ANSWERED ON:23.03.2001
PRIVATE TV CHANNELS
P.D. ELANGOVAN

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of private channels at present in the country;

(b) whether some more private channels are going to be started in the country in near future;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons for giving permission for the same; and

(d) the income generated through these private channels during the last three years?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a) The Government is not maintaining record of foreign channels beaming signals over India. However, 25 channels have been permitted to uplink from India.

(b) & (c) Yes, Sir. Some private companies have applied to uplink their channels from India and these are being processed as per the guidelines for uplinking from India, a copy of which, has been put on the website of Ministry of Information & Broadcasting (mib.nic.in)

(d) The income generated through these private TV channels during the last 3 years is as follows:

i)	Revenues earned by WPC Wing of Ministry of Communication	Rs.3.86 Crore (approx)
ii)	Revenues earned by Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (VSNL)	Rs.39 Crore (approx)
	TOTAL	Rs.42.86 Crores